

75  
Strange and Wonderful

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**N E W S**

FROM

**Warwick-shire.**

BEING

**A true and faithful Relation of unheard**

of Apparitions, lately appearing on the Church Wall of *Austrey* in the County of *Warwick*; in manner and form as it here in fully related; to the wonder of this Age, and amazement of the Spectators who come far and near to behold it.

Attended by several hundreds in the Town and Country where it is, and in *London* by Mr. *Nathaniel Vincent*, Mr. *Kentish*, Mr. *Castle*, and several other very sober persons.

*When that such Wonders do to us appear.*

*Let us then learn aright our God to fear.*

AND ALSO

**A true Relation of a horrible murther**

Committed on the Body of a Jewish Woman, being a Daughter of one of their Priests, since *Christmas* last, by the order of her own Father being according to the Jewish Law, as plainly appears in the 21 Chapter of *Leviticus* and the ninth Verse. *That if the Daughter of any Priest, if she prophane herself by playing the Whore, she prophaneth her Father, she shall be burnt with fire.*

L O N D O N

Printed for J. Coniers, and Charles Passenger in *Southwark*.





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Strange and Wonderful

N E V V S

FROM

V V arvvick-shire, &c.



Here is a Town called *Austrey* in the County of *Warwick*, in which Church there plainly appears two Crosses upon the Steeple Wall within the Church, opposite to the Chancel; so plain and Aspect that one may discern it almost in every part of the Church; the one like unto the Cross of *England* with a Capital O under it, the other Cross like a Mullet in

Heraldry. Now you may take notice that this Cross or Mullet hath been observed by all the Inhabitants of the Town, and also of many others that are of Age capable to remember to have appeared three times before, this being the fourth time of it's ap-

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pearing; at which several times it continued three weeks or a month; Now the times at which it appeared were these. The first time that ever it was seen or heard of, was a little space before our late Sovereign Lord King *Charles* was Murthered. The second time of it's appearing, was a little before the *Non-conformist* Ministers were suspended. The third time of it's appearing, was in Summer, 1666. A little before the burning of the City of *London*. Now because it had so many times appeared and gone away of it self, many People were of Opinion that it was laid in Oyl on the Stone when the Church was builded, and the sweating of the Stone might bring it out, and as the Stone dried it might go in again. Therefore for the better satisfaction of all Persons who desired to know the truth of it. The Plaister was hewed off the Stone where it appeared, and the Stone was scraped and made very clean as any Stone could be made, and no Man expected to see it any more, for if it had been laid in Oyl it could take no deeper impression then the face of the Stone, which was hewed and scraped off: But to the admiration of all the Beholders it appeared again as plain as ever, this being the fourth time, and also this other Cross on the left hand with a Capital O under it, which Cross and O were never seen before, and also over most of the Pillars in the Church there is IHS in very great Text Letters with a round O under them, and over the two Crosses on the Steeple are the same great Letters. There are also on a Partition Wall between the Chancel and the body of the Church the same Letters of IHS, and also a Half Moon and several Stars, which are not so much taken notice of because they were usually set up over the Kings Arms when the Churches were first built; the Letters signifie JESUS HOMINUM SALVATORUM: This I say was usual in most Churches; But in this there was none, for they were blotted out long ago, ever since Popery was exterpated, and never seen but on the times afore-mentioned, and the last time upon the 22<sup>th</sup>. of *November*, 1674. These things all appeared together as the People were in the Church, nothing being seen on the Saturday before.

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The certainty of these things you need not question in the least, for we assure you there were several Persons very sober, rational, and understanding Men, who are the most sufficient Men in the Town, and Men of honest Report, who do credibly affirm these things for Truth before a great number of people, many Gentry and others who were looking on them in the Church.

It is observed that the Papists do much rejoyce at it, hoping it to be some Prediction for the promotion of their Religion for they are daily coming to see them, and also all other sorts of People, but more Papists then other People. There are divers of all sorts that come near three score miles or upwards, so that they are coming in constantly as if it were Sabbath-Day.

The last time this right hand Cross appeared, which was 1666. it was curiously drawn by the Papists, and carried to *Rome*, and they have writ a Book of it. The colour the Crosses and Letters appeared in are black, the Crosses being about half a yard long, and the Letters about half an ell long.

This is extracted from several Letters sent to Mr. *Nathaniel Incent*, Mr. *Kentish*, Mr. *Castle*, Ministers, and several others who do and will attest the same.

But according to our promise we being next to relate our Jewish story, which although it was acted nearer hand within the bounds of the City of *London*, and in regard such great care was taken in the private management we cannot give you so particular satisfaction as we desire: But be assured that we have it from such good hands as we credibly believe it, which in short take thus.

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The Jews as it is well known to all Men, are very strict in observing their Laws and Customs, whereof this is one, that if the Daughter of their Priest shall become unchast, and is proved to be with Child by any Stranger, that the Woman being delivered of a Child, that shall be preserved, but the Woman for her offence shall be immediately burned to Death. Now in this present Month of *January*: One of these Priests Daughters being guilty of this crime, and the time of her delivery being come, several of her Father's Relations being acquainted with this affair, and being resolved to execute this Law upon the unfortunate Woman. In order thereunto two of them understanding where to fetch a Midwife procured a Sedan, and went to the Midwives house, where telling her that they had occasion to make use of her for the delivery of a Gentlewoman who was at present near the time of her delivery, and promising her to give her a sufficient recompense for her delivery, she agreed to go into the Sedan, and was in short time carried by By and unknown ways in the dark night to the house, where when she was arrived she was desired to go up stairs, and there she saw a fair Room, and in it a very great fire, and no Women according to her expectation, so that having for some time looked about, and seeing no business for her, she asked (of the People that were there, being six Men who were disguised with Vizords) whether they had any business for her, they replied yes, but she must go up another pair of stairs, she hearing this Answer performed their directions, and being up the second pair of stairs, saw four Men more in disguise, and withall seeing a Bed there, and going towards it, she there saw a Woman, who seemed to be mightily passionate, which she might very well be in respect of her present condition, being full of pain and fear; whereupon the Midwife desired to know how it was with her, she told her that not only her present pain which she hoped she would ease her of was the cause of her present sadness, but that which was immediately to follow was the whole occasion of her just cause of grief, and thereupon told her who she was, and also her guiltiness, and present punishment, and that those four present disguised Persons only waited to see her delivered



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vered of her Child, and then to carry her to the great fire which she might observe to be in the Room below.

The Midwife much pittied her Woman, but knowing it was not in her power to help the Woman, she applyed her self to save the Child, which she assisted into the World, and having done that she was carried down stairs, and having thirty Guineys given her for her pains, she was desired to depart, and be silent and secret in this matter, and although she soon departed, before she went, she heard lowd and dismal screeches, which she knew were made by the Woman, when she was violently seized on by the four Men in order to her execution. After which noise those two Persons who had brought her thither put her again into the Sedan, and then carried her to her house from whence they had brought her. But this action was performed so suddenly and secretly, that the Midwife cannot tell in what part of the City this horrible and unnatural Action was acted, but does very well remember all the particulars before recited, and thereupon hath given this Relation as a thing of great variety, wishing that it were in her power to discover the particular Persons, so that due punishment might be inflicted on those unnatural and bloody Murtherers.

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